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COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Abuses of Authority by Security Forces

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The following abuses of authority have occurred:

- (a) On 6 Aug 47 a trainload of Polish soldiers who had just returned from England left Gdansk for Laskowice. At noon the train was stopped on a siding where NWD and UWP units lay in wait. There the repatriates were robbed of all valuables, including shoes.
- (b) Abuses by the EO are increasing, and it is commonly known that they usually pilfer food and other articles during routine baggage inspections on trains or in stations. Inspections at the Mielno station and in Krakow are notorious in this respect.
- (c) In Warsaw special PPR partisan battalions (bojowki) have been organized to attack and rob members of the PNL and the former AK. If the attackers are identified, the UWP protects them by threatening their victims.

2. However, individual security against robbery, banditry, and similar crimes is gradually improving. This slight improvement has occurred despite the fact that EO or UWP preoccupation with political action in any area has generally led to increased banditry in that area.

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